

CLC # 7-3443

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

media

December 5, 1978

Dear Mr. Shepherd:

Thank you for your letter of November 29. Your questions are well put and I have referred them to the Director of Central Intelligence for appropriate action.

Many thanks!

Sincerely,

Z. Brzezinski

Zbigniew Brzezinski

Mr. John H. Shepherd



cc: Admiral Turner

rec'd 7 Dec 6

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November 29, 1978

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Hon. Zbigniew Brzezinski
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Brzezinski:

Recent news reports have indicated that you and the President are dissatisfied with an August 1978 CIA Intelligence Estimate on the situation in Iran. I want to call to your attention some rather incisive articles which appeared in the July issue of the well-known French monthly publication Le Monde Diplomatique.

These articles clearly trace the religious, economic and political origins of the current crisis and provide a factual basis for a pessimistic prognosis on the current regime. The articles are well documented and annotated with footnotes. Any intelligence officer preparing a report for the President would be obliged to give a careful second thought to his optimistic conclusions if he had access to the articles.

Several questions immediately arise:

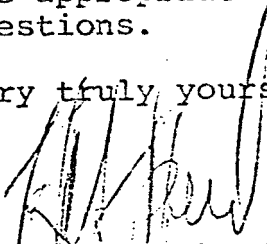
1. Does the CIA subscribe to Le Monde Diplomatique?
2. Is there a mechanism within the CIA for bringing such articles to the surface quickly?
3. Did those who prepared the August Report have access to the facts published in the French Publication in July, even if they did not read the specific articles? If so, what use was made of these facts in drafting the August Report to The White House?
4. The articles in the American press state that the CIA relied on the Iranian secret police (SAVAK) for its information. The articles in Le Monde Diplomatique state that the SAVAK was in part, a creation of the CIA. If this is so why would the CIA rely on the SAVAK for so much of its data? I have investigated

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numerous criminal cases and it is a basic rule in investigative work that one should not rely too heavily on those with whom one has a client relationship. You will hear what those reporting want you to believe. It would be useful to know how, on a step-by-step basis, the CIA went about preparing its report.

Since my good friend Senator-Elect Carl Levin has an interest in correcting bureaucratic inefficiency in Government programs (of which intelligence-operations are a part) I am forwarding a copy of this letter to him with the suggestion that he urge the appropriate Senate Committee to seek answers to the above questions.

Very truly yours,



John H. Shepherd

JHS/slk

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT (O/DCI)

Routing Slip

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TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
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2	DDCI		X		
3	DD/RM				
4	DD/NFA	X			
5	DD/CT				
6	DD/A				
7	DD/O		X		
8	DD/S&T				
9	GC				
10	LC		X		
11	IG				
12	Compt				
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14	D/EE0				
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16	AO/DCI				
17	C/IPS				
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SUSPENSE DATE:

14 December 1978

Remarks:

To 4: Please prepare letter for DCI's signature to Mr. Shepherd and prepare DCI transmittal notes to Dr. Brzezinski and Senator Levin forwarding a copy of same.